

REPORT ON OFFICER'S DUTIES IN REGARDS TO OSWALD'S DEATH

C. W. BROWN - #759

On the 24th of November, 1963, I reported to work at 7:00 am driving Squad Car #376. After an interview of the suspect, Lee Harvey Oswald, by Captain Fritz, I was told to get my car and get in position in front of the other squad that was to carry Oswald to the County Jail. At approximately 11:40 am, I went to the City Hall basement and drove my car about half way up the south ramp, which leads out to Commerce Street, and my partner, Dhority, moved the other squad car up behind me. We both started attempting to back up to the jail office door when I heard a shot. I immediately put the emergency brake on and ran back to the other car. By this time, other officers had removed Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby into the jail office. I went back to my car and moved it back into the parking area so the ambulance could get through. When the ambulance arrived, Captain Fritz, Dets. E. R. Beck, L. D. Montgomery and I proceeded behind the ambulance to Parkland Hospital and set up security, first in the Emergency Room, then to the fourth floor, where Oswald underwent surgery. After Oswald died at 1:07 pm, the body was removed to the X-ray room on the ground floor. Judge Pierce McBride was contacted via telephone, and he reported to the morgue desk and gave authorization for a post mortem to be performed by Dr. Rose of the Parkland Staff. Dr. Rose took charge of the body, and I went with him and got the wife and mother of Oswald from the waiting room and let them view the body in the X-ray room. After the relatives viewed the body, I accompanied it along with my partner, C. N. Dhority, and Dr. Rose to the Morgue. At the Morgue, Dhority and I witnessed the preliminary photos taken of the body by Dr. Rose and his staff. After this, I returned to the office and continued our investigative work there.

REPORT ON OFFICER'S DUTIES IN REGARDS TO OSWALD'S MURDER

C. N. DIGNITY - #476

Sunday, November 24, 1963, about 9:30 AM, Capt. Fritz directed Dets. J. R. Leavelle, L. C. Graves and myself to go to the fifth floor jail and bring Lee Harvey Oswald to his office. We brought Oswald to Captain Fritz's office, where he was interrogated by Capt. Fritz, Mr. Kelly of the Secret Service, Mr. Sorrels of the Secret Service, and Mr. Holmes of the Postal Department. They talked to Oswald until about 11:10 AM. Chief Curry came into Capt. Fritz's office when the interrogation was going on. At the end of the interrogation, Capt. Fritz gave me the keys to his car, and told me to park it along the door from the jail office in the basement. I went to the basement and unlocked Capt. Fritz's car and proceeded to drive the car into the driveway. There was a plain black police car in front of me, and the officers who I could not recognize, drove this car up the ramp to Main Street exit. I was backing Capt. Fritz's car in front of the jail office, and was having trouble getting through the news reporters that had jammed the ramp driveway. While I was backing up, I was turned around in the seat looking back to keep from running over the reporters. Capt. Fritz came out of the jail door, followed by Det. J. R. Leavelle handcuffed to Oswald. Det. L. C. Graves was to Oswald's left. They were walking to the car while I was still moving the car back. Capt. Fritz opened the right rear door of the car I was driving, and I noticed a man move quickly across the right rear of the car. This man moved to Oswald and shot. I recognized this man as Jack Ruby, a man I had seen a few times before in previous years. When Ruby shot, Det. Graves grabbed the pistol Ruby had in his hand. The crowd of reporters closed in with the police officers, and I jumped out of the car, and went into the jail office.

The officers had Ruby, and Det. Leavella was being unhandcuffed from Oswald. Capt. Fritz directed me to return to the basement and have the Supervisor Officer to obtain the names of everyone in the basement. I went to Capt. C. E. Talbert and gave him Capt. Fritz's message. I then moved Capt. Fritz's car out of the driveway where the ambulance could get to the jail office. When the ambulance came, I rode in the ambulance with Oswald to Parkland Hospital. I stayed at Parkland Hospital until Oswald was pronounced dead. Det. C. W. Brown and I went with Oswald's body to the morgue where we waited until Dr. Earl Rose made his preliminary pictures of the body prior to the autopsy. I turned over Oswald's clothing to Dr. Earl Rosa, and returned to the Homicide Office in the City Hall approximately 5:30 PM. I stayed in the Homicide Office with Mr. Stewart and went through the property of Oswald. I made copies of letters and identification from Oswald's property for Mr. Stewart. I also made copies of all the affidavits that had been taken by the Homicide Office and Sheriff's Office for Mr. Sorrells of the Secret Service.